

BROAD SPECTRUM CONTRACTS CURRENT STATUS (July 2001Update)

Progress continues on the Broad Spectrum Treatment Contracts managed by Bechtel Jacobs Company on behalf of DOE Oak Ridge Operations. The contracts are accessible by all DOE sites for treatment and disposal of a wide range of mixed low-level wastes. Recently the terms and conditions of the contracts have been modified to conform to the DOE Integrated Contracting Procurement Team terms and conditions. This is part of an effort by DOE to consolidate procurements and eliminate redundant procurements.

M&EC is located at the East Tennessee Technology Park in Oak Ridge. Perma-Fix Environmental Services, Inc. completed its buy-out of M&EC on July 1, 2001. M&EC has received their RCRA permits and will utilize equipment that has an EPA mobile PCB authorization. Oak Ridge completed shipments of approximately 348,000 kgs in July of an organic contaminated sludge that will be the First Article Test. The stabilization process has been installed and equipment shakedown for that system and the container handling system will be completed in late July. The thermal desorption reactor has been installed and all insulation completed. Wiring and ancillary equipment installation has also been completed. Shakedown of the thermal desorption unit is projected to be completed by late August. M&EC continued to address corrective actions for treatment processing related to the DOE Oak Ridge audit of the facility. The First Article Test is expected to begin in late August or early September.

In addition, waste treatment is underway for the Category A contract at the Perma-Fix Environmental Services facility at Gainesville, Florida. Approximately 6,400 kgs of an Oak Ridge organic sludge was shipped to the Gainesville facility in late January 2001. A separate First Article Test for that facility was completed in April 2001 using the organic sludge. Perma-Fix has submitted a report and received interim approval to continue treating additional mixed waste. A final approval will be given after receipt of the results from the destruction of the organic liquid phase of the waste. The Gainesville facility has installed a smaller scale low-thermal process system that is similar to the M&EC facility. Following the First Article Test, the Gainesville facility is expected to treat small quantities of organic waste such as labpacks.

Waste treatment is also being pursued under the Category L contract with Allied Technology Group (ATG) in Richland, Washington. Inorganic and organic liquids and slurries as well as elemental mercury are being planned for treatment at ATG. A DOE audit will be conducted in early April at ATG. The facility was found to have state-of-the-art equipment but was not operating to many of the existing procedures. A corrective action plan has been submitted by ATG and follow-up will be required before the First Article Test shipment of waste is made. ATG is also conducting a test demonstration for the gas vitrification unit under its permit. The test is now expected to be conducted in September. Oak Ridge is planning to ship a small quantity of labpack waste to ATG for a First Article Test in September.

Waste Control Specialists in Andrews, Texas continues to stabilize inorganic contaminated sludges, soils, and debris from several sites under the Category C contract. Oak Ridge has shipped approximately 8 waste streams of approximately 500,000 kgs to date to WCS. Shipments of treated residual from WCS were shipped to Envirocare for disposal in May and June.